

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 21-22, and 24-25 are currently pending. Claims 21 and 24 have been amended and claims 23 and 26 have been cancelled.

Applicant acknowledges and appreciates the Examiner's indication that claims 1-9 are allowed and claims 24-26 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Claim 24 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 21 and intervening claim 23. As such, claim 24 is in a condition for allowance. In addition, claim 25 depends from claim 24 and is also allowable.

The Examiner rejected claims 21-23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Loffler (U.S. Patent No. 5,084,940).

Applicant has amended claim 21 to include the limitations of allowable claim 26 and the limitations of intervening claim 23. As such, claim 21 is allowable and the rejection in view of Loffler is moot. In addition, claim 22 depends from claim 21 and is also allowable.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-9, 21-22, and 24-25 are allowable.

The undersigned is available for telephone consultation during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,



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